

# SAINT ATHANASIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

## ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΥ

REV. PROTOPRESBYTER ANARGYROS STAVROPOULOS  
*IERATIKOS PROESTAMENOS*

December 1, 2020

Dear Faithful Stewards of St. Athanasios:

***Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.  
Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.  
Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I believe..." as proof of that belief.  
- Williams and McKibben in Oriented Leadership***

As we approach the end of 2020, we can only reflect on what an unsettling year it has been for all of us. COVID-19, Economic Upheaval, Civil Unrest and a highly contested Presidential Election. It will truly be a year we will not forget and will speak about for a very long time.

The leadership of our parish have been working to maintain and continue to work as best as possible for the mission of the church and all its ministries. We have been streaming our services since early in the year, Sunday School has begun with social distancing & masks. Greek School opened with online classes, youth and dance programs began with protective measures. Most importantly, when we were permitted, our church was reopened with social distancing, masks while in the building, limitations on number of participants and special cleaning procedures. Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals also resumed with the same protections in place. How sad it was that we could not fully attend services together during Great Lent, and during the Passion of Holy Week.

Financially, the Parish Council had to make some very difficult decisions in order to reduce expenses and to maintain the basic services of the Parish. Losing the income from Fund Raising Activities and from our parishioners who would normally attend services has taken a tremendous toll on the finances of the Parish.

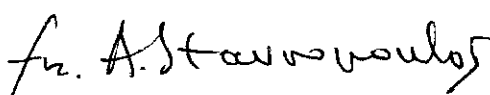
We must look forward to the New Year as a new beginning to the next chapter of our lives both personally and for our Church. The financial conditions of 2020 for our parish will continue into 2021. We don't know when we will be able to resume full operations including having our Festival, fundraising activities and most important, full attendance in church. The only revenue source we can turn to is you, our Stewards.

**What we need from you our Stewards is your full support.** For 2021 our estimated budget is, \$521,302.00. We have on average 320 Families who have faithfully supported our parish for many years, and in 2021 we will need per family from Stewardship, \$1034.00, in order to maintain the operations of the church.

The ministries and long-term mission of our church will continue. The current crisis will pass. Please continue to support our church so that together we may serve our members and our community during this difficult time. Your offering of support may be submitted by mail to the church office or dropped off when you attend a service. We ask that you submit your 2021 Stewardship Commitment Card by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Thank you for your support. Through our faith, we can trust that we will all soon gather in our beloved St. Athanasios Church, our spiritual home.

In His Service,

  
+ Protopresbyter Anargyros Stavropoulos  
Ieratikos Proestamenos

  
Andrew Hios  
Parish Council President

  
Peter C. Paizis  
Stewardship Chairperson